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NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE CURRAN CONFIRMED AS NYMTC CO-CHAIR

**Kathryn S. Wylde serves as keynote speaker and NYMTC Council adopts \$41.5 million
Unified Planning Work Program**

NEW YORK – Nassau County Executive Laura Curran was confirmed as Co-Chair of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) at its 2018 Annual Meeting.



“I would like to thank the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council Executive Director José M. Rivera for the opportunity to serve as Co-Chair,” said County Executive Curran. “I look forward to serving and collaborating with NYMTC to advance innovative projects that will improve our regional transportation network. Investments in our infrastructure will help drive economic growth and make our region more resilient for the future.”

During the February 27 meeting, which was held at the City College of New York (CCNY), NYMTC Council Members elected County Executive Curran as Co-Chair for the 2018-2019 term. Previously, Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell served as NYMTC’s Co-Chair for two consecutive terms. Also, New

York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Acting Commissioner Paul A. Karas is currently NYMTC's other Co-Chair.

Additionally, NYMTC announced the release of its [2018 Annual Report](#), which is titled "Coming Together to Shape the Region's Future." To obtain a copy of NYMTC's 2018 Annual Report, please [click here](#).



"NYMTC Council Members continue to collaborate in addressing the existing needs and challenges of this region. Our annual report, titled 'Coming Together to Shape the Region's Future' is a testament to that," said NYMTC Executive Director José M. Rivera. "Over the past year, with the support of the Council, NYMTC staff continued to streamline

administrative processes that help member agencies expedite the delivery of federal-aid transportation projects needed to adequately maintain the region's transportation infrastructure."

"I would like to thank the Council, particularly NYMTC Co-Chair and Putnam County Executive Odell and former NYSDOT Commissioner Driscoll for their support and leadership," NYMTC Executive Director Rivera continued. "I now look forward to working NYSDOT Commissioner Karas and Nassau County Executive Curran, along with the rest of Council Members, in continuing to address the region's transportation planning challenges."

Also, serving as the Annual Meeting's keynote speaker, Kathryn S. Wylde, President and CEO of the Partnership for New York City, offered a special presentation titled "Transit, Traffic and Taxes." Ms. Wylde discussed new challenges for the New York City metro region and focused on how the transportation priorities of the region need to be addressed through more creative, nontraditional means than in the past. Ms. Wylde highlighted a recent report by the Partnership for New York City, which disclosed that traffic congestion costs the metro New York region \$20 billion annually. She also mentioned a recent Fix NYC Panel report, which recommended a congestion pricing zone in Manhattan, along with new charges on for-hire vehicles, to help to generate a more sustainable funding stream to fund transit improvements.



This includes encouraging public-private partnerships, authorizing value capture and design-build opportunities to help streamline transportation infrastructure.



“It’s time to recognize that nobody else is going to pay for it,” said Wylde, while mentioning other funding opportunities for infrastructure.

Council Members also adopted NYMTC’s [SFY 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program \(UPWP\)](#). The UPWP is a guiding document that helps NYMTC and its members to determine how federal funding will be spent each year for planning activities.

“The \$41.5 million Unified Planning Work Program continues to address

many of the region’s planning needs and priorities in 2018,” said NYMTC Executive Director Rivera.

Photos are available on NYMTC’s [Flickr Page](#).

About the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues, develop regional plans and make decisions on the use of federal transportation funds for its planning area. NYMTC is comprised of nine voting members and seven advisory members who develop plans, goals and a shared vision for the region's transportation network, which includes a planning area that covers 2,440 square miles and includes a population of 12.4 million. For more information, please visit www.nymtc.org.